(iv) Need to arrange the reimbursement of decretsl amount guaranteed on behalf of India United Mills, Bombay, to the Government of Maharashtra

[*English*]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Sir, the Government of Maharashtra have sanctioned and released an amount of Rs. 12,34,93,000 to the Punjab National Bank on 28th September, 1989 according to the High Court Judgement being the decretal amount in respect of the guarantee given by the Government of India and the State Government jointly and severally on behalf of the India United Mills, Bombay. The Government of India had agreed to share 50 per cent of that amount and had directed the National Textile Corporation (NTC), in February, 1990 to make payment of Rs. 6,17,40,189 to the Government of Maharashtra. The State Government have been following up the issue from time to time. But till this date, nothing has been done.

I, therefore, request the Government of India especially the Minister of State of Textiles to look into this matter and arrange the reimbursement of its share to the Government of Maharashtra at the earliest.

(v) Need to lift the ban on rebate on the sale of Handloom Fabrics to wholesalers

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, at present, rebate is allowed to Weavers Cooperative Societies for the sale of handloom fabrics at 20 per cent on retail sale. In one bill, a maximum rebate of Rs. 200/- is only allowed and in one bill, goods can be sold only upto a gross amount of Rs. 500. The rebate is allowed only on retail sales and not on wholesales. Till 13.1.1986 rebate was allowed for both wholesale and retail sales. The Weavers Cooperative Societies were permitted to sell goods in bulk either on cash basis or through bank throughout India. Thereafter, the wholesale rebate was stopped. Due to this, the Societies were not able to dispose of their goods. The Societies engage hundreds of weavers and provide continuous employment. They produce goods in bulk. They cannot sell their goods in their villages and would like to place orders to far off places. When they represented to the Government, wholesale rebate was permitted from 17.8.1982 up to 13.1.1986 and thereafter it was stopped again.

The Weavers Cooperative Societies will find ready market to sell their goods throughout India to get cash liquidity and provide continuous employment throughout the years, only when the ban on rebate on wholesale is removed. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to remove the ban on rebate to wholesales with immediate effect.

(vi) Need to take steps to ensure supply of cotton and silk to weavers and small Scale Industries at cheaper rate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BADAN (Lalganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a few days back the news of suicide by weavers in Andhra Pradesh were prevailing in the newspapers. The weavers of the country are starving due to lack of proper attention towards small scale industries. On the other hand some companies have increased the prices of polyster films, through which polyster yarns are made, by about 50 percent dunng the last 6 months. As a result of this increase in prices the whole of the handloom industry has been facing a sereve crisis, Similarly, due to inadequate supply of Silk the cottage industry in the Northern Uttar Pradesh has badly affected the business of Banarsi Sans. My submission to the Central Government is that the supply of cotton and silk should be made regularly at a reasonable price and arrangements should be made for the direct export of Banarsi Saris, so that the problems of the lakhs of weavers can be solved.